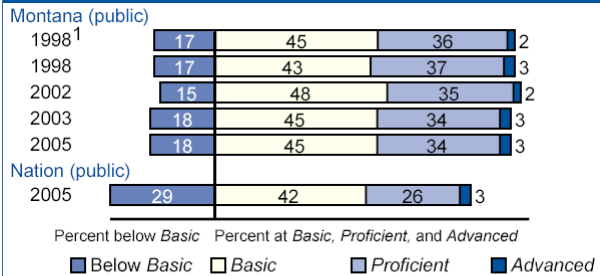


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in three content areas: reading for literary experience, to gain information, and to perform a task. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

### Overall Reading Results for Montana

- In 2005, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Montana was 269. This was not significantly different from<sup>1</sup> their average score in 2003 (270), and was not significantly different from their average score in 1998 (271).
- Montana's average score (269) in 2005 was higher than that of the Nation's public schools (260).
- Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions<sup>2</sup> that participated in the 2005 eighth-grade assessment, students' average scale scores in Montana were higher than those in 35 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 15 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 1 jurisdiction.
- The percentage of students in Montana who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 37 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (37 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 1998 (40 percent).
- The percentage of students in Montana who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 82 percent in 2005. This percentage was not significantly different from that in 2003 (82 percent), and was not significantly different from that in 1998 (83 percent).

### Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels



<sup>1</sup> Accommodations were not permitted for this assessment.

NOTE: The NAEP reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: Below Basic, 242 or lower; Basic, 243–280; Proficient, 281–322; Advanced, 323 or above.

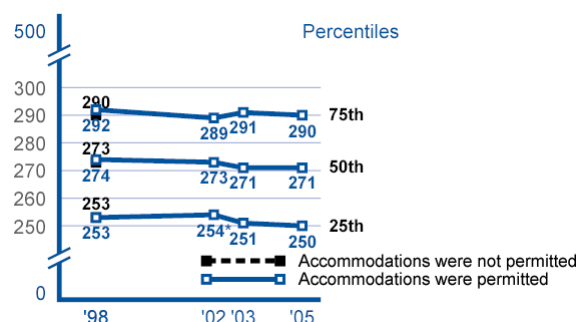
### Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Montana

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above Basic	Percent of students at or above Proficient	Percent Advanced
Male	51	265	22	78	30	2
Female	49	274	15	85	43	4
White	87	272	15	85	40	3
Black	1	†	†	†	†	†
Hispanic	2	†	†	†	†	†
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	†	†	†	†	†
American Indian/Alaska Native	10	248	43	57	16	1
Eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	32	259	29	71	25	1
Not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch	66	274	13	87	42	3

### Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2005, male students in Montana had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 9 points. In 1998, the average score for male students was lower than that of female students by 14 points.
- Data are not reported for Black students in 2005, because reporting standards were not met. Therefore, the performance gap data are not reported.
- Data are not reported for Hispanic students in 2005, because reporting standards were not met. Therefore, the performance gap data are not reported.
- In 2005, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, an indicator of poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 15 points. In 1998, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 17 points.
- In 2005, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 40 points. In 1998, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 39 points.

### Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles



Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels of the distribution performed.

# The estimate rounds to zero.

† Reporting standards not met.

\* Significantly different from 2005.

↑ Significantly higher than 2003. ↓ Significantly lower than 2003.

<sup>1</sup> Comparisons (higher/lower/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Performance comparisons may be affected by differences in exclusion rates across years for students with disabilities (4% nationally in 2005) and English language learners (1% nationally in 2005) in the NAEP samples. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.

<sup>2</sup> "Other Jurisdictions" refers to the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for free/reduced-price lunch and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> for additional results and detailed information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), selected years, 1998–2005 Reading Assessments.